

THE INTELLIGENCER.

Published Daily, Except Sunday, by
Intelligencer Publishing Co.

25 and 27 Fourteenth Street.

JOHN FREW, Pres. and Bus. Manager.

Terms: Per Year, by Mail, in Advance,
Postage Prepaid.

Daily (6 Days Per Week) 1 Year...\$5.20
Daily, Six Months...2.60
Daily, Three Months...1.30
Daily, Two Months...1.00
Daily, One Month...75c
Weekly, One Year, in Advance...1.00
Weekly, Six Months...60c

THE DAILY INTELLIGENCER is delivered by carriers in Wheeling and adjacent towns at 10 cents per week. Persons wishing to subscribe to THE DAILY INTELLIGENCER can do so by sending in their orders to the Intelligencer office on postal cards or otherwise. They will be punctually served by carriers.

Tributes of Respect and Obituary Notices 50 cents per inch.
Correspondence containing important news solicited from every part of the surrounding country.
Rejected communications will not be returned unless accompanied by sufficient postage.

(The INTELLIGENCER, embracing its several editions, is entered in the Post-office at Wheeling, W. Va., as second-class matter.)

TELEPHONE NUMBERS:
Editorial Rooms... 823 | Counting Room... 822

THE INTELLIGENCER.

WHEELING, JUNE 6, 1899.

Mr. Elkins on a Century's Progress.

Elsewhere in this morning's Intelligencer will be found the full text of the scholarly address delivered by Senator Elkins before the West Virginia Editorial Association, which met in his home town last week. It is not of interest only to newspaper men of the state, but to all citizens, for it covers a broad field, and discusses ably and eloquently the progress of the nineteenth century in all lines of development, intellectual, industrial, scientific, invention, and the great part that has been borne by the press in the work, particularly in the last fifty years.

Senator Elkins is an optimist, a logical, not a visionary, one, and thoroughly believes in the greatest possibilities of the future, based upon the wonderful achievements and advancements of the dying century. Much that is of especial interest to West Virginia is contained in the address.

It is the truth, though apparently a startling one, when the senator states that "measured by all standards, by the good done the world and mankind, making the individual better, lifting him up to higher levels, subduing selfishness, increasing charity, the spread of light and religion, more has been accomplished in this century than in any ten centuries past." He is right. His review of what has been accomplished, though brief, is graphic and instructive.

The Intelligencer commends the address to the careful perusal of all its readers. It will bear the strongest light of public scrutiny, as the utterance of a broad-minded man of affairs, who, from his experience and knowledge of history, past and current, is competent to speak upon the great questions which are appropriate to the dawn of a still greater century of achievements in human endeavor.

A Mistaken Idea.

The Western Democrat wants to know "if the silver question is already dead, why are the gold bugs so anxious for the Democrats to drop it?" Nobody has said the question is dead. It will not die so long as Bryan and Altgeld and his advocates continue to agitate it and keep its feeble pulse going. But sound and honest money men are not advising the Populist wing of the Democracy to drop it. Our Western friend is not shrewd enough to understand that it would not be good politics for the Republican party to want to see the total elimination of a question which, so long as it is kept alive by its deluded advocates, is proving a rock upon which the ship once known as the United Democracy is foundered and has been from the start. We inform our Western contemporary of this fact, without any fear that our sixteen-to-one Democratic friends will alter their course. Wise Democratic advice has been rejected by them repeatedly. The element which has destroyed the only organization of the Democracy that has won but one complete victory in a period of forty-three years, is still in the ring as a disturbing factor and a disorganizer, and so long as it does not show any greater strength than it has since the election of 1896, the sound money men are not asking the said disturbing faction to drop the main issue. They know it will die the natural death that dangerous fallacies, which attack our national credit and the foundation of the money systems of all great commercial nations, always die, as the people become educated in the difference between a safe and unsafe monetary system.

A Striking Contrast.

Imagine the actions of the Comtesse Boni de Castellane, who was Miss Anna Gould, of New York City, personally leading a mob of royalists in Paris during the assault on President Loubet, on Sunday, and shouting "Vive l'Armée." Think of this American woman, who married a title, a count in name only, who came here in search of an American girl with a fortune, engaging in a demonstration by the enemies of a republican government, because of her husband's identity with the deposed nobility of a past empire. Contrast this with the noble work of another member of her family—a sister—in the person of Helen Gould, who is content to devote her life and her great fortune to works of humanity, to patriotic labors among the wounded and sick soldiers who fought for human freedom and to rescue a down-trodden race from the effects of a despotic rule of centuries; who isn't looking for foreign titles and social triumphs in aristocratic life, but goes among the impoverished people of the city where her

fortune was won, dispensing charity and ministering to the helpless. The widely different careers chosen by these two sisters, when contrasted, present a most impressive moral.

An Anti-Pecksniff Organ.

Says the Register: "The Intelligencer lauds the ticket selected by the Ohio Republican convention. Of course, it would have done that in any event." This able comment is doubtless intended to call public attention to the fact that the Register does not laud all tickets nominated by the Democrats; that it customarily repudiates them and advises its readers to vote the Republican ticket as a choice between evils. The independence of the Register, and its total lack of partisanship in refusing to endorse Tammany tickets in New York, Altgeldism in Illinois, Bryanism in Nebraska, and its strict adherence to a non-partisan policy, are so well known in this community, and in the state at large, that no arguments are needed on our part to further impress the fact on the public mind.

When the readers take up the Register they never expect to see anything denunciatory of Republicans, even of the Republican President, but always a thoroughly conservative tone of peace and good will and broad-minded American support of the American government. And they always know how well the Register carries out its business-like policy of denouncing a movement to establish a depreciated and unsafe currency system, based on a fifty-cent dollar, which civilized governments have abandoned, and gives its hearty non-partisan endorsement of financial honor and national credit.

This liberality has nothing to do with our friend's support of all the varieties of Jeffersonian Democracy that are on the market, and the willingness to accept any sort of a platform that the conglomeration of devotional minds choose to foist on the party, and no questions asked. Whether silver is to be paramount or put in a back seat; whether the anti-imperialist plank is to be a tribute to the "patriot" hidden in the jungles of the Philippines, who combines all the exalted traits and noble qualities of Washington, Bolivar, Kosciuszko, and other great leaders for liberty and civilization; or whether it is to uphold the hands of the Executive, render deserved tribute to our heroes on land and sea, and favor government based upon civilized plans and guaranteeing protection to life and property, trade and commerce, doesn't matter. Of course the Register will support anything it is offered by the variegated elements that will meet next year, but it will at the same time retain its self-respect and its non-partisan independent principles.

A Bicycle Ordinance.

The city of Pittsburgh is about to inaugurate a bicycle ordinance that has received the hearty approval of conservative wheelmen in that city and deserves it, for it is designed for the safety of citizens as well as the wheel riders themselves. The ordinance requires that all wheels used within the limits of the city must be provided with a long white light, that the rule to keep to the right shall be observed, and a moderate speed is prescribed. The rule governing lights specifies that a red or green light on either side of the white light shall be used, this, we presume, in order that the bicycle may be better distinguished from other vehicles with lights. This double light, while necessary, perhaps, for the crowded streets of large cities, might not be regarded as essential in the cities of smaller class.

Regulations of speed within the limits of a city, particularly on the streets on which there is much traffic, and along which the street car lines run, should be enforced to a reasonable extent. Even in Wheeling there have been frequent narrow escapes from serious accidents. The business streets are not so wide as to make it entirely safe for riders of wheels who recklessly steer at rapid speed between the car tracks and the curbs, in the busy hours of the day, when the wagon traffic is brisk.

In resident portions of the city narrow escapes by children who stray from the sidewalk are not infrequent occurrences, though accidents are, fortunately, rare. The best side of safety is the right side, and the right side is moderate speed. Lights are not as generally used as they should be, even though the arc street lamps are plentiful.

Dewey has at last started for home and he is reported to have greatly improved in health, looking "ten years younger." The entire country will receive this news gladly and await his coming to the joyful welcome of a people proud of his glorious achievements. Admiral Dewey will more fully realize the respect he has won from the nations of the world before he lands at New York, and proceeds to his quiet New England home. Then the honors from his countrymen will be more to him than all the tributes paid by the ships of foreign powers.

The capture of Morong and the driving of the insurgent troops from their stronghold by the Washington troops under Colonel Whalley, with scarcely any loss, was one of the most important achievements of the heroic western troops occurring recently. The natives were scattered in all directions, and took to the hills. The Americans now occupy the town. The aggressive movement now being made is clearing the Morong peninsula of the rebels, and ridding that portion of Luzon from a very formidable foe.

Emily Crawford, the Associated Press special correspondent at Paris, gives the truth with reference to the status of the Dreyfus case, when she remarks, speaking of the decision to give the prisoner of Devil's Island a new trial, that "President Faure suffered himself to be black-mailed into hindering the work of Justice, and Nemesis took him. Were he still alive the event of Saturday would not have happened. President Loubet has stood out against all tampering with the judiciary."

President Loubet will lose nothing in the estimation of the common people of France by reason of the ugly situation growing out of the demonstration made



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against him on Sunday. Loubet is a man of the people, and upholds the cause of justice. This was demonstrated by his conduct in the Dreyfus case. The royalists have undertaken a task that may yet be their undoing if the republicans of France stand by the president.

MARRIAGEABLE AGES.

In Germany a man must be at least eighteen years of age before he can marry.

In Portugal a boy of fourteen is considered marriageable and a woman of twelve.

In Greece the man must have seen at least fourteen summers and the woman twelve.

In France the man must be eighteen and the woman sixteen. In Belgium the same ages.

In Spain the intended husband must have passed his fourteenth year and the woman her twelfth.

In Switzerland men from the age of fourteen and women from the age of twelve are allowed to marry.

In Turkey any youth and maiden who can walk properly and can understand the necessary religious services, are allowed to marry.

In Austria a "man" and a "woman" are supposed to be capable of conducting a home of their own from the age of fourteen.

In Hungary for Roman Catholics the man must be fourteen years old and the woman twelve; for protestants the man must be eighteen years and the woman fifteen.

In Russia and Saxony they are a little more sensible, and a youth must refrain from entering into matrimony till he can count eighteen years and the woman until she can count sixteen.

REFLECTIONS OF A BACHELOR.

Man stops running after a street car and a woman when he has caught them.

A man can lead a woman to sin, but after that he has hard work to follow her.

Most women will believe anything a man tells them if they are sure he don't mean what he says.

It makes a woman happy to ponder on how she could have saved the man her best friend has just divorced.

The first thing a woman does after a man asks her to marry him is to write a motherly letter to the man who didn't ask.—New York Press.

An Honest Confession.

Chicago Tribune: "I confess this Philadelphia problem puzzles me," remarked the man with the high forehead.

"I don't know what I should do if I were in President McKinley's place."

The man with the short neck jumped up and grasped him by the hand.

"I am delighted to meet you, sir," he said. "You are the first and only man I have seen yet who couldn't take right hold of this Philadelphia business and jerk the daylight out of it!"

An Unscrupulous Doctor.

Tit-Bits: He-I am really surprised at Dr. White. After being our family doctor for years, and treating me for all sorts of things, and to think of all the money we've paid him, too!

She-What has he done?

He-He wouldn't pass me for the life insurance company!

Proud of Their Talented Townsman.

Indianapolis Journal: "That old fellow with the white hair," said the citizen who was showing the visitor through the county poorhouse, "is the once celebrated Professor Borgless, who wrote so many delightful hymns. Born and raised in this town. We are very proud of him, I assure you."

The Why.

Troy Times: "Papa, I know what makes some people laugh in their sleeves," said little Harry.

"Well, my son, what makes them?" asked the father.

"Cause that's where their funny bone is," was the reply.

Rain.

For the Intelligencer.
Near the little rain drops patter, Pat, pat, patter 'gainst the pane, Making an incessant chatter In the falling of the rain.

Over the roof they're gaily tripping, Dancing, laughing in their fun; Down the roof, now they are slipping, And they'll fall, yes, every one.

Hear the wind, how it is sighing, Whistling, playing them a tune; Varied are the airs 'tis trying, But 'twill not be weary soon.

See, the angry clouds are frowning, Making all the earth look drear; For the sunshine they are drowning; So, his face will not show near.

But the flowers smile in greeting, Little rain drops as they fall; For they know that by their meeting They will larger grow and tall.

And they put away their dusty, Faded coat of dingy green; For they are no longer rusty, And they brighter will be seen.

—Martha Shepard Lippincott.
Moorestown, N. J.

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FOR EARLIER HOURS.

A Social Movement Which has a Backing of Common Sense.

New York Tribune: "Early to bed and early to rise" is a Philadelphia proverb. Ever since the days of Benjamin Franklin that city has enjoyed a reputation as a place of staid virtues and moderate habits. People were not supposed to go there at the pace that kills. But it seems that Philadelphia has lately been losing its beauty sleep, and a movement is on foot among its social leaders to restore the good old days of Poor Richard, so that young men and maidens may have a better chance to grow wealthy and wise.

Whether the late social hours against which Philadelphia revolts are late absolutely or only relatively we do not know. It is possible that the Philadelphia brain requires more sleep than the New York or Baltimore brain, and that very mild social dissipation may be too much for Quaker placidity. It is perhaps true, however, that all social life is carried on at too late hours, and that everywhere devotees of society are suffering for lack of sleep, and Philadelphia, true to its sporting tendencies, was only the first to realize the fact and enter protest. If that is the case, Philadelphia is entitled to credit, not least because of the courage required, as some of the Philadelphia papers point out, for a town with Philadelphia's reputation to start a movement in favor of more sleep. Color is given to the view that the difficulty is a general one by the sympathy which the movement receives from the social leaders of Washington. One woman of prominence there says it is a pity that young men who have to be at the office early in the morning should be compelled to burn the candle at both ends in order to enjoy any social life. As for herself and other women, who have a chance to make up sleep in the forenoon, she does not like to lie abed all the morning and she considers it a wicked waste of time.

Now it may be answered in behalf of the true butterfly theory of society that "society" does not exist for the sake of, but rather to get rid of, the young men who have to be behind the counter at 8 a. m., and that people with Puritan consciences, who are shocked at any "wicked waste" which contributed to the evening of society, have no reason for being in society. Imagine the company of Carlton House or Versailles arranging its plans because somebody had to be at the office in the morning or because it was a waste of time not to be up with the lark! What would young Charles Fox have said if somebody had told him that a public servant, member of parliament and under-secretary, should go to bed early so as to have a clear head for the public business. That Washington has a society which regards the next morning's claim on the butterfly's time and attention shows how far we have departed from the old world idea of social life. We have, indeed, made water and oil to mix when we have what a Philadelphia paper calls the "very cream of society," not only welcoming the young men who have to keep office hours, but actually confessing that it considers their convenience and needs.

The counting room young man has long been in society, but it has been a pleasant fiction of some of the "cream" and often of the young man himself, that he was not there, and it has often been pitiful to see the young man and the "cream" both pretending that neither had any connection with trade or anything to do but dance and talk and sleep until noon. The young man knew he could not sleep until noon, and that he must leave the boarding house before 7 o'clock, and the "cream" knew it also. But it long persisted in boring itself with a pretence of idleness and irresponsibility. It is good to see Philadelphia and Washington facing facts. It may yet become fashionable for the cotton leader to say frankly: "I must be at the teller's window on time, and so can't stay out later." But that is a long way from the fashion that makes yesterday's responsibility unfashionable. We hope it will prevail, for it is straightforward and honest. It suits a country where everybody works better than a society which lives on the pretense of general idleness, such as Louis XVI knew, but which does not exist here at all.

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